



Atty. Dkt. No. 023228-0115

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Steele et al.

Title: WAFER INSPECTION SYSTEM  
and APPARATUS

Appl. No.: 10/710,836

Filing Date: 08/05/2004

Art Unit: 2877

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.

LAURA MARKHAM  
(Printed Name)

Laura Markham  
(Signature)

1/24/05  
(Date of Deposit)

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

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**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

All but one of the documents are in English. An English version of EP1039227 is not available. However, the Examiner for the corresponding PCT application where this European application was cited considers that this document is a "document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance."

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**FEE**

A fee in connection with submission of a supplemental information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1450. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even

entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit  
Account No. 06-1450.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 2-2-05

By Matthew E. Martin

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP  
Customer Number: 27433  
Telephone: (312) 832-4586  
Facsimile: (312) 832-4700

Matthew E. Martin  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 53,274

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> Date Submitted: January 20, 2005 (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
Application Number				10/710,836	
Filing Date				08/05/2004	
First Named Inventor				M. Brandon Steele	
Group Art Unit				2877	
Examiner Name					
Attorney Docket Number				023228-0115	

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

**Complete if Known**

Date Submitted: January 20, 2025

(use as many sheets as necessary)

<b>Application Number</b>	10/710,836
<b>Filing Date</b>	08/05/2004
<b>First Named Inventor</b>	M. Brandon Steele
<b>Group Art Unit</b>	2877
<b>Examiner Name</b>	
<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	023228-0115

Sheet	2	of	2
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Examiner  
Initials\*Cite  
No.<sup>1</sup>

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

T-6

Reid, Jr., Lennox Errol, "Surface Characterization of Hard Disks Using Non-Contact Work Function Capacitance Probe," A Thesis Presented to the Academic Faculty in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, June 1986.

Moorman, M. et al., "A Novel, Micro-Contact Potential Difference Probe," Sensors and Actuators B, Elsevier Sequoia S.A., Lausanne, CH, vol. 94, number 1.

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

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